



The Saint George award program, in existence since 1986, provides the mounted force with a way to recognize outstanding performers, their spouses (Order of Saint Joan D' Arc), and Armor Force supporters (Noble Patron of Armor, with a newly resized, much larger medallion). The highest level of the Order of Saint George is the Gold Medallion.

Those who have received the Gold Medallion are a select group, as you will see if you ever visit the St. George Room at the Fort Knox Leader's Club, formerly the Brick Mess. Look at the gallery gracing its wall. There you will see portraits of each Gold recipient drawn by *ARMOR's* former artist, the late SFC Robert J. Torsrud, and Mr. Jody Harmon, our current artist. Frankly, it is an inspiring sight.

As one can see from the list below, the number of people chosen for this award each year is small indeed, befitting the high honor attached to receiving it. Each man was retired at the time of the award:

COL Jimmy Leach *May 86*  
 LTG Robert Baer *May 86*  
 MG Ernest Harmon *Sep 86*  
 GEN James Polk *Sep 86*  
 GEN Donn A. Starry *May 87*  
 MG Lawrence Schlanser *May 87*  
 GEN Bruce C. Clarke *Feb 88*  
 COL Hap Haszard *May 88*  
 1SG Patrick J. Rocco *May 88*  
 GEN William A. Knowlton *Jul 88*  
 LTG William R. Desobry *Mar 89*  
 LTG Julius Becton, Jr. *May 89*  
 CSM William Price *May 89*  
 BG Phillip L. Bolté *May 90*  
 GEN Glenn K. Otis *May 90*

MG George S. Patton *May 91*  
 GEN Michael Davison *May 91*  
 CSM Donald E. Horn *May 92*  
 COL William Marshall *May 92*  
 COL Jim Spurrier *May 93*  
 BG Albin Irzyk *May 94*  
 LTC Burton Boudinot *May 94*  
 COL Fred Greene *May 95*  
 MG Lewis Stephens *May 95*  
 MG R. J. Fairfield, Jr. *May 96*  
 MG Robert J. Sunell *May 96*  
 MG Thomas Tait *May 97*  
 Mr. Dick Hunnicutt *May 97*  
 LTG Walter Ulmer *May 97*

I know there are other similarly esteemed and well-deserving people who have never been considered for the award because they didn't get nominated. It isn't anyone's fault, but in the previous ten years, word about the nomination process hasn't been known widely in the Armor and Cavalry force. There is a nomination process and a deadline for each year's nominations. If you are reading this, consider yourself now in-

formed that we are asking for nominees. The presentations will take place during the 1998 Armor Conference Banquet, being held 20 May at the Armor Inn at Fort Knox. That means the nomination packet must have a postmark prior to 20 February 1998.

I won't take the time here to lay out all of the qualifications necessary for the award, except to say that a nominee must be eligible for the other levels of the Order of Saint George to be considered. He must meet the criteria for both the Bronze and Silver medallions to even be in the hunt; however, he doesn't have to have received either or both to be eligible.

There are two important facts that will tell you if the person you are considering nominating is in fact a viable candidate. First, he must have a demonstrated record of **lifelong** service to the Armor Force. Of course, a superb record while in uniform is a given, but the nominee must also have continued to serve the force in later years. Second, barring an unusual circumstance, the nominee has to be able to attend the banquet to receive the award. A copy of the nominating rules is available by calling the Association at (502) 942-6219.

A note of caution: only a couple of people are chosen each year to receive the award from among the qualified candidates. Several of those on the list above were nominated several times before being selected. Also, the more nominations received, the more disappointed nominators there will be, and the stronger the field of candidates will also be.

A word of advice: Don't tell the person you are nominating that you are doing so, because you don't want to raise their expectations and then see the nomination fail. That said, please consider lifelong contributors to our force that you know, and give serious thought to nominating them to the prestigious Gold Medallion in the Order of Saint George.

A final note: Because of rising costs, the Armor Association has had to raise the price of the Order of Saint George to \$30 per bronze and silver medallion (vice the earlier \$25 price), beginning with nominations postmarked after 1 January 1998. But there is no cost involved in nominating a candidate for the Gold Medallion.

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By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

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